Appl. No.09/320,172 Amdt. dated July 30, 2004 Reply to Office Action dated January 30, 2004 Docket No. TRNSV-055BB2

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the remarks which follow are fully responsive to the Office Action dated January 30, 2003.

Claims 1-36 were pending. In the Office Action, claims 4-15, 17-19, 23. 26, 28, 29, 32, 33 and 36 were withdrawn from consideration and remaining claims 1-3, 16, 20-22, 34-25, 27, 30-31 and 34-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5.965.089 (Jarvik et al.).

By the present amendment, Claims 1, 24, 27, 30 and 31 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter and to correct dependencies and provide for antecedent basis in certain dependent claims in view of the withdrawal of other claims from consideration. No new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Jarvik et al. describes heart assist devices. In some of the Jarvik et al. devices, a first conduit carries oxygenated blood from a chamber of the heart to an extracorporeally located pump and second conduit carries the blood from the extracorporeally located pump into the aorta. In others of the Jarvik et al. devices, a first conduit carries oxygenated blood from the right atrium to an extracorporeally located pump and second conduit carries the blood from the extracorporeally located pump into the pulmonary artery. Jarvik et al. does not disclose or suggest a system wherein a first conduit carries oxygenated blood to an intracorporeally located coupler and a second conduit carries the blood from the intracorporeally located coupler into the coronary venous vasculature as recited in amended independent claim 1. Accordingly independent claim 1, as amended, and all dependent claims are believed to be allowable over Jarvik et al. and all other prior art of record.

Conclusion:

On the basis of the foregoing, all grounds for rejection have been overcome or obviated.

Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

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The Commissioner is authorized to any fees due in connection with this response to Deposit Account No. 50-0878.

Repectfully submitted,

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Date: July 30, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent Office

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Dated: July 30, 2004